AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) The beam-guiding optical device of claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein said treads are curved.

3. (Currently Amended) The beam-guiding optical device of claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein said treads are formed concentrically.

4. (Currently Amended) An optical head device having ~~said~~ a beam-guiding optical device ~~of claim 1~~ to bring beams of different wavelengths which are emitted by separate light sources together onto the same optical axis or to guide said beams onto a common photo receiving device, comprising: an incident plane; and an exit plane, said incident plane and exit plane being back to back wherein one of the incident plane and the exit plane has a stair-like surface; wherein a step height between neighboring treads in said stair-like surface is set to cause a phase difference corresponding to "n" wavelengths to one of said beams when the one of the beams passes through said neighboring treads so as not to change the traveling direction, the optical head device comprising:

a first light source for emitting a first beam of light;

a second light source for emitting a second beam of light which differs in wavelength from said first beam of light;

a beam splitting element for separating a forward optical path directed to the optical recording medium from the first light source and second light source from a return optical path directed to the common photo receiving device from the optical recording medium;

an objective lens for converging said first and second beams of light onto a recording surface of an optical recording medium; and

a common photo receiving device for receiving said first and second beams of light which are reflected from said recording surface of said optical recording medium through said objective lens;

wherein said beam-guiding optical device is placed on ~~an~~ the return optical path separated from the forward optical path between said objective lens and said common photo receiving device to deflect one of said first and second beams of light that have been reflected from said recording surface of said optical recording medium and to guide both of said first and second beams of light onto said common photo receiving device.

5. (Original) The optical head device of claim 4 wherein said first and second light sources are stored in a single package as a light source unit.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (New) The optical head device of claim 4 wherein the beam-guiding optical device is placed on the return optical path between the beam splitting element and the common photo receiving device.